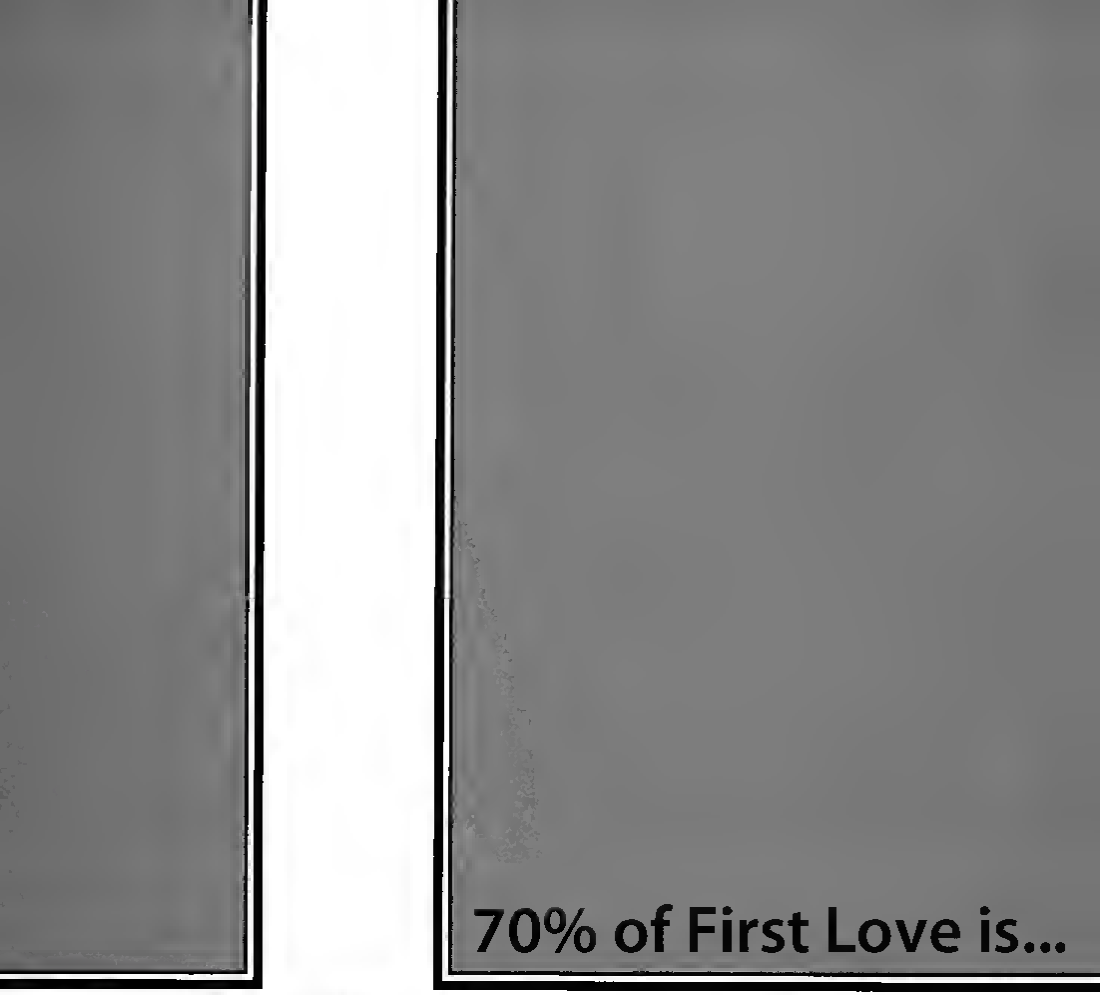
DEAR+COMICS-190

初恋の70%は、

山中ヒコ

Hiko Yamanaka

HIKO やまなか・ひこ YAMANAKA



Dear+COMICS190/SHINSHOKAN

初恋の70%は、/山中ヒコ

HIKO YAMANAKA PRESENTS

Dear+COMICS190

初恋の70%は、

HIKO YAMANAKA PRESENTS

70% of First Love is...

HIKO YAMANAKA

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Come on, Sugiyama! Stop messing around!
Soccer.
Baseball.
I get it.
Volleyball.
I get it.
I sort of get it.
Futsal.
I get it. Well, it's the same as soccer.
Come on, come on! Three more laps!
Track and field...
Sugiyama, faster!
...I don't get it at all.
It's a masochistic sport.
Last lap!
70% of First Love is...
GOOD LUCK, "SUGIYAMA."
YOU'RE AMAZING, "SUGIYAMA."

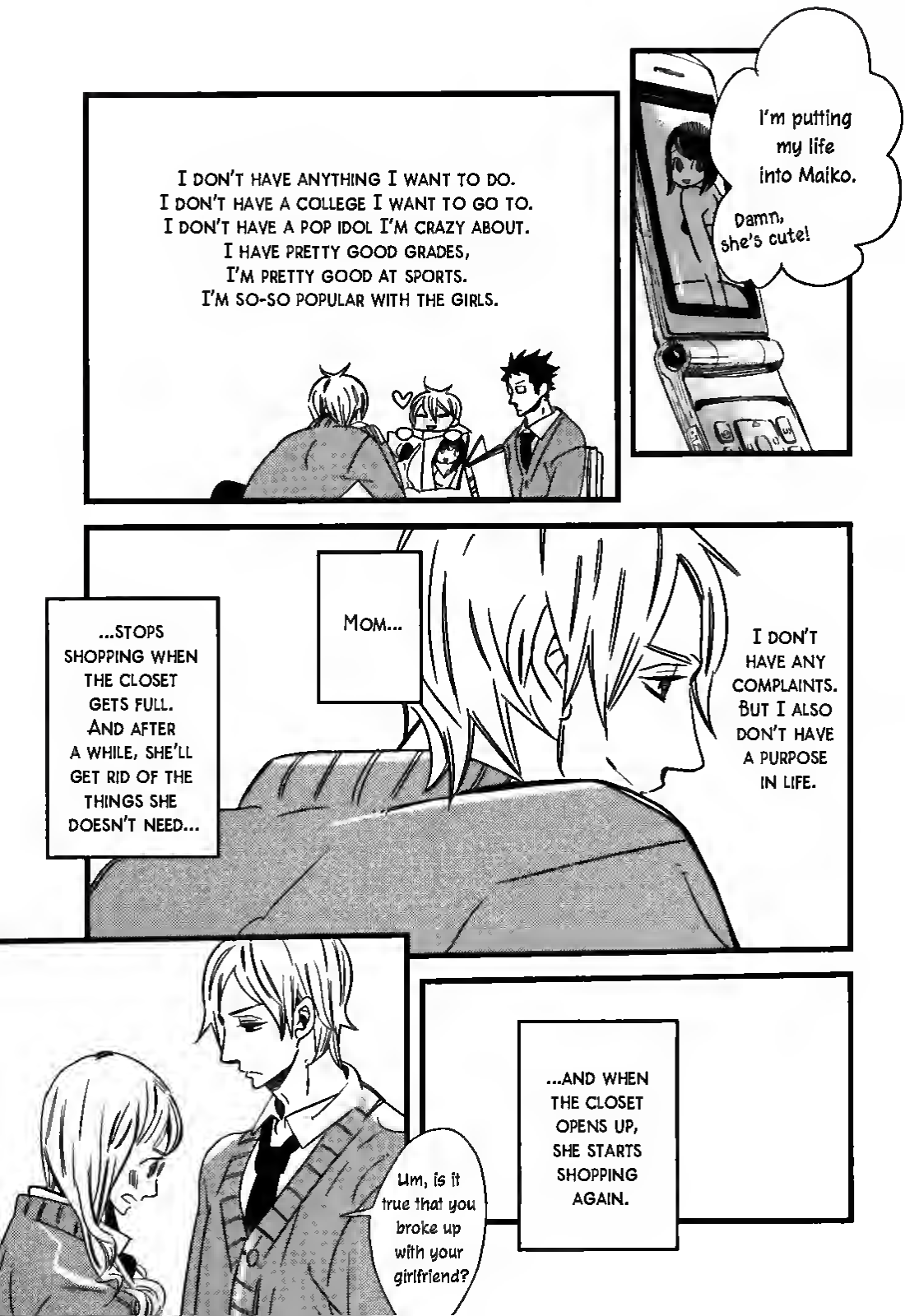
70% of
First Love
is...
Chapter 1
初恋の70%は、
第1話

He lapped the others.
Yeah, he is.
But he's really fast.
Is Sugiyama his name?
Good luck, Sugiyama.
BECAUSE THERE'S A TRACK, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RUN.
BECAUSE THERE'S A ROAD, PEOPLE DRIVE THEIR CARS OVER IT.
BECAUSE THERE'S A CONTAINER, WE FILL IT WITH SOMETHING.
THE CONDO MOM BOUGHT THREE YEARS AGO...

...AND A LARGE WALK-IN CLOSET. SEEING THIS...
Walk-in Closet
M
Powder Room
Bath Room
Hall
Bedroom
...HAS MY ROOM, MOM'S ROOM, A LIVING ROOM...
...I FIGURED...
...SHE HAS NO INTENTIONS OF DATING OR REMARRYING ANYMORE.
Zzzz
.....

WHAP
ペラ
.....
You're awake.
Hey, continue.
Hee hee, the joy of my son taking care of me.
MUMBLE
むにゃ
Nngh.
Hey mom, you should at least wash your makeup off.
...I can't make it there.
At least sleep in your bed.
No way, old hag.
Kotaro, can you get my pajamas?
PACKED
ぎっちり
It won't fit...
You got dumped again?
MOM'S HOBBY IS TO STUFF THE WALK-IN CLOSET WITH THINGS.
Then at least get my comforter.

You're right on schedule, aren't you?
Your relationship lasted only four months, yet again. Are you sure you're the one getting dumped?
You're not the one dumping?
No, I'm not.
He doesn't care. He dates anyone who comes along.
And he doesn't have ambitions.
.....
You guys are the same, aren't you?
I don't have girls asking me out, so I don't know!
I'm putting my life into studying for university entrance exams.
Oh, right...


I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING I WANT TO DO.
I DON'T HAVE A COLLEGE I WANT TO GO TO.
I DON'T HAVE A POP IDOL I'M CRAZY ABOUT.
I HAVE PRETTY GOOD GRADES,
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT SPORTS.
I'M SO-SO POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS.
I'm putting my life into Maiko.
Damn, she's cute!
MOM...
I DON'T HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS. BUT I ALSO DON'T HAVE A PURPOSE IN LIFE.
...STOPS SHOPPING WHEN THE CLOSET GETS FULL. AND AFTER A WHILE, SHE'LL GET RID OF THE THINGS SHE DOESN'T NEED...
...AND WHEN THE CLOSET OPENS UP, SHE STARTS SHOPPING AGAIN.
Um, is it true that you broke up with your girlfriend?

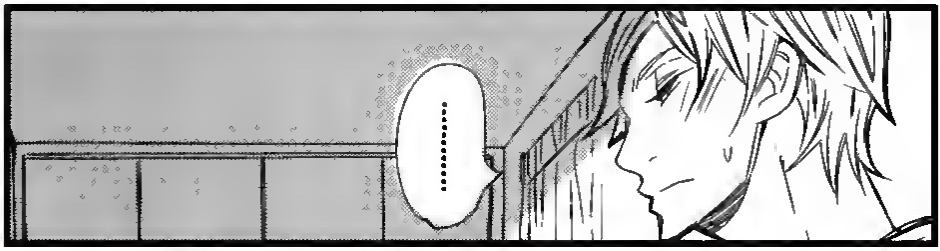
SHE DOESN'T BUY ANYTHING WHEN THE CLOSET IS FULL.
It must feel good.
He's washing up.
I'm sorry that I'm taking your time.
WOOOOSH
SPLASH
He's pretty toned.
S.P.L.A.A.A.S.H
Look at that back.
...is so thin.
His waist...
I've been interested in you for a while now, so I was wondering...

...TRULY "SOMETHING YOU REALLY WANT?"
BUT...
IS THAT...
TWIST
Sugiyama!
ビク!
FLINCH
Got it.
Coach was looking for you.

What are you looking at?
Oh... nothing...
Hey, so about your time the other day...
Oh.
.....
Thanks ...
HE'S THAT "SUGIYAMA."

THAT MANAGER GIRL WAS PRETTY CUTE.
I WOULD PUSH HER AGAINST THE WALL...
...WITH HER BACK FACING ME.
I WOULD PUT MY HAND UP HER SKIRT.
FLIP
YEAH, JUST LIKE THIS.
"PLEASE... STOP THAT."

Her body would be slender.
The fingers wrapped around her body could easily touch the bone.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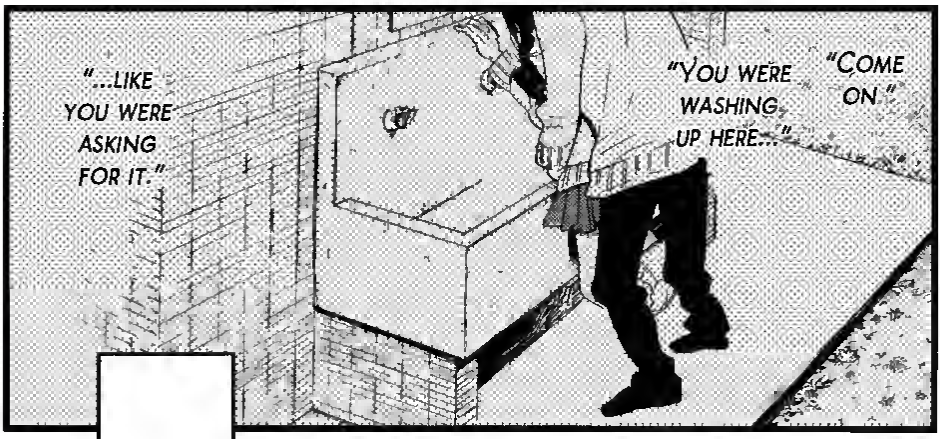

"...like you were asking for it."
"You were washing up here..."
"Come on"

Hm?

"No..."
"Stop it..."
Wake up
What?!
Whaaat?!
No way!

Huh?
?
Is he popular...? With the girls...?
Actually, does he have a girlfriend?
Um, not really.
Yonezawa, classmate.
Oh, so are you... close with Sugiyama?
Sugiyama? He's in Class B.
Really? I'm surprised to hear that.
I don't think so.
And no. Not really popular with the girls

He doesn't say much, and he's rude.
I think he's a bit scary.
I see...
CREAK
Why do you want to know? Did something happen with Sugiyama?
No.
I just wanted to talk to you, that's all.
PAT
Thanks.
OK...
Takayuki Sugiyama.
His grades are average. But he's an amazing athlete.

He's not particularly liked by girls.
Although he's not bad-looking...
BUZZ
BUZZ
He even went to the Nationals? Damn.
He's a nut about his sport...
SNEAK
SNEAK
SLURP
DAILY TRACK NEWS
Track & Field
Did he wear his jacket even though he was wet...
...because that girl came along? He was being considerate? How annoying.

!!
(Self-loathing)
FROM THAT DAY ON, EVERY DAY...
.....
DOES SUGIYAMA LIKE THAT GIRL? HOW ANNOYING.
...NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT...
He's a guy.
...EVEN THOUGH I TELL MYSELF...
HIS THIN WAIST...
...AND WET JACKET THAT STUCK ON HIS BODY...
He's a guy.

Kasukabe! What are you going to eat?
Curry udon...
What's wrong?
Sugiyama was eating it yesterday
Hey, let's go home.
Yeah.
He's still running? It's so late.

I'VE NEVER STAYED AT SCHOOL SO LATE BEFORE.

BEFORE, HE WAS JUST A DOT ON THE FIELD. BUT NOW I CAN SEE SUGIYAMA'S FACE IN MY MIND AS HE RUNS.

AND THEN THEY MELTED INTO DARKNESS.

Urgh...
It's cold...
But you need to ice it.
NOOOO
SST
See? Your thighs are hot.
Ah...
FLINCH

Let's stretch it out.
You're getting stiff.
NOOOOO
NOOOOO
Ah.
GRIP
Ah.
Ah...
No...
Come on.

Things are going in a weird direction...
Shoot, this isn't good.
I need to do something about this.
He's worn out.
.....
What's wrong with Kasukabe?
WOOSH
I'LL GO SEE HIM.
Sugiyama's sex appeal?
GASP
BURN
I THINK IT WAS SUGIYAMA'S STRANGE SEX APPEAL THAT STARTED THIS.

GET REAL. I'M SURE ONCE I TALK TO HIM...
I CAN'T. I JUST CAN'T.
NOOOO !!!
FLINCH
I CAN'T BE GETTING HORNY EACH TIME I THINK OF HIM.
SWING
...I'LL REALIZE THAT HE'S JUST SOME GROSS GUY LIKE ANY OTHER HIGH SCHOOL GUY.
OK.
SHIMMER
And how do you use this brush?
Please just leave me alone.
You're in my way
I'm gonna mess up.
WHIRRRRR
You took a shower? In the morning?
What's the special occasion?

Why does your hair look so nice this morning?
.....
Seriously?
Yeah! Even I would fall in love with you.
Really...?
Dude, I'm just kidding. You're actually scaring me.
GRAB
What's with him? He's creepy.
Yeah, creepy.
Hey. Where are you going?
Class B.
...WHAT AM I GOING TO SAY TO HIM?
We don't have anything to talk about.
It's practically our first meeting.
And I don't have any friends in Class B.
BUT WHEN I GOT TO THE ENTRANCE, I REALIZED...
-B
STOP

What if he thinks that I've getting all psyched up so early in the morning and I actually came to school just to talk to him?
Come to think of it, isn't first thing in the morning a little creepy?
SLIDE
*Second period started.
DING DONG
But... then again, it's going to be hard to talk within just 10 minutes.
Dunno.
Does he have something going on at Class B today?
*After first period
DING DONG
Where are you going?
Class B.
SLIDE
SLIDE
Change of plans. Morning is not good.
Is Sugiyama here?
He went to a meeting for the track team.
BADUM
OK, OK...
I'll do it at lunch!
BADUM
BADUM
I can do this! I'll do this!

THEN AFTER SCHOOL IT IS!
?
?
STOMP
I sound like a stalker or something.
So I'll talk about track.
Hey, I saw your trophies. You're pretty fast.
Do you have any tips you can share?
STOMP
Hm... maybe that won't work.
I don't know what to say now...
But whatever.
IF...
STOMP

...I DON'T TALK TO HIM TODAY, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO TALK TO HIM!
Z-B
ガラッ
SLIDE
Is Sugiyama-?
Uh...
Oh...

Oh...
TWITCH
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
Huh?
Me? What do you want?
MY MIND WENT BLANK.
THAT'S WHEN I SAW, FROM THE CORNER OF MY EYE...
Hey, Hayama!
Can you get Hayama?

Hey, what's up?
It's been a while.
Yeah...
I heard that you broke up with Yukawa.
I also...
SST
I...
...WAS FACING SUGIYAMA AS I TALKED.

I'm scum.
I'M THE MOST PATHETIC GUY IN THE WORLD.
A GUY WHO CAN'T EVEN TALK TO ANOTHER GUY...
Trash.
I don't deserve to live.
I COULDN'T TALK TO HIM.
BUT WHY IS IT THAT SUGIYAMA IS TAKING UP ALL MY THOUGHTS, EVEN MORE THAN EVER?
...BUT IF I DID, I'M SURE I WOULD HAVE FANTASIZED ABOUT SUGIYAMA.
I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE PLEASING MYSELF THAT DAY...
I'm so tired...

And I don't cooperate well with others.
We're going to be late, Kasukabe.
FESTIVAL ACTION COMMITTEE
I'm really not the type to do this.
I don't.
You'll be fine if you have the will to do it!
Why do I have to do this?
It's your fault for sleeping while we voted on who should be on the committee.

GOD,
COULD THIS...

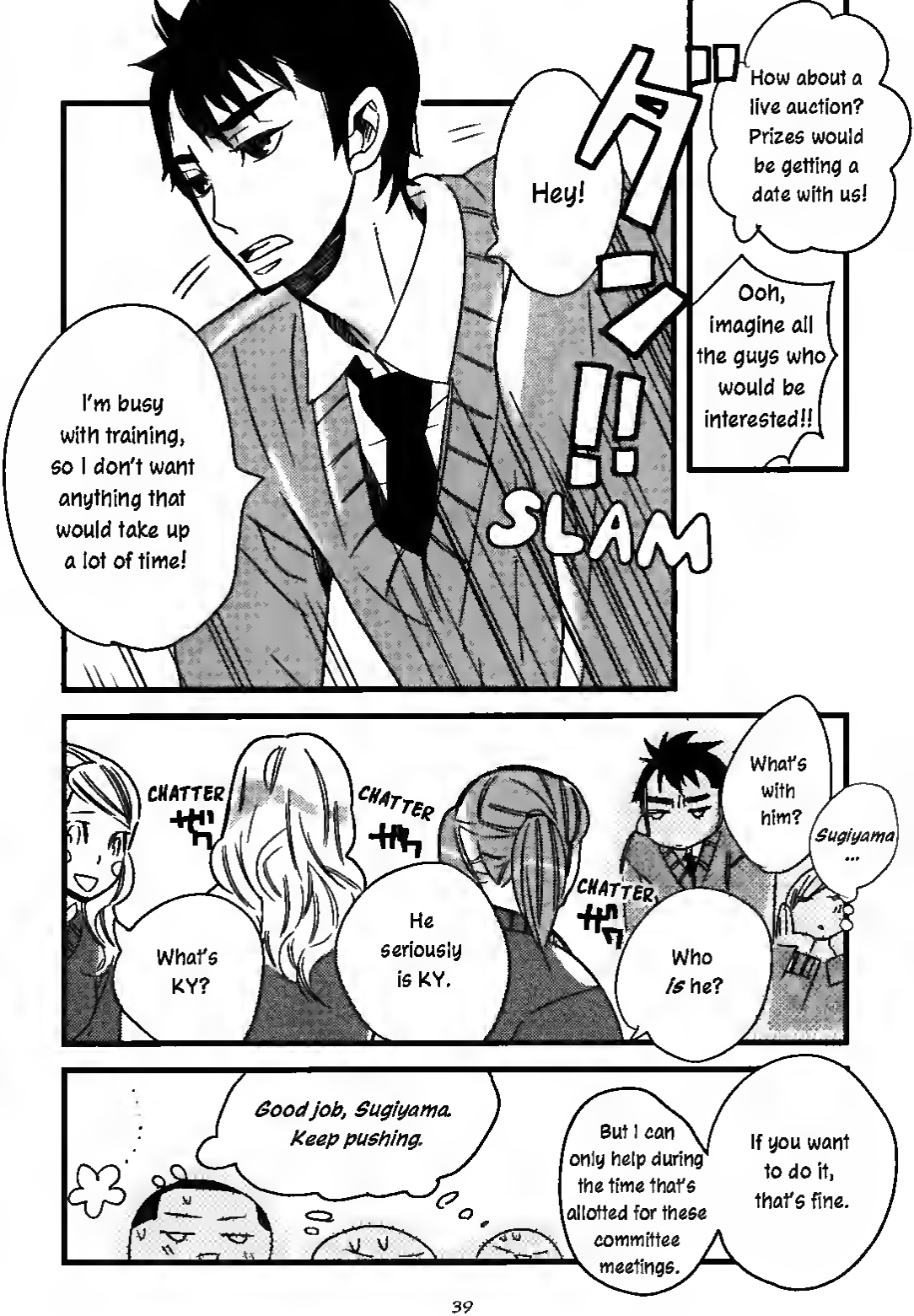
...POSSIBLY
BE...

Chapter 2

I'M ON THE SAME COMMITTEE...
...AS THE GUY I FANTASIZE ABOUT.
If anyone has an idea, please raise your hand.
This year's theme is "Our Shining Youth."
...the main event that we, the Festival Action Committee, is going to plan.
OK... I would like to decide...
How about a mixer party with all students forced to participate?!
A fashion show?
That's a great idea!!
That's a great idea!!
How about a haunted house?!
That's a great idea!!

Can I say something ?
They sound like a lot of work...
All of them.
CHATTER
CHATTER
Those ideas have nothing to do with the theme.
.....
Sugiyama...
DAZED
Cross-dressing café!
That's a great idea!!
A play!
That's a great idea!!
A giant maze!
That's a great idea!!
.....

I have one.
How about a photo exhibit?
We'll get some *shining youth*-ish pictures from the Photography Club and blow them up as panels and display them in the conference room.
Maybe about 10 pictures?
DAZED
Sugiyama...
That sounds good.
It won't take up much time.
And it goes with our theme.
Most importantly, it won't take up much time.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
SHINE
Sugiyama...
BONK
That's a great-
I think a fashion show is the best idea.
Definitely. It would stand out!
If we all work together, we can make a couple of outfits.


How about a live auction? Prizes would be getting a date with us!
Hey!
Ooh, imagine all the guys who would be interested!!
I'm busy with training, so I don't want anything that would take up a lot of time!
SLAM
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
What's with him?
Sugiyama ...
What's KY?
He seriously is KY.
Who *is* he?
Good job, Sugiyama. Keep pushing.
But I can only help during the time that's allotted for these committee meetings.
If you want to do it, that's fine.

I can't believe him.
Who do you think you are?
I'M...
KY is the abbreviation for *kuuki yomenai* (can't read the situation), and...
What? I'm not good at English.
Sorry, gotta go.
Let me know what you guys decide on.
キーン
DING DONG
SLIDE
ガチャ
SLAM
バタン
.....
...SO HAPPY!!
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
ADORATION!!
THE GUY I'M IN LOVE WITH IS GETTING SOME HATE FROM THE GIRLS!!

...I'LL REALIZE THAT HE'S JUST SOME GROSS GUY LIKE ANY OTHER HIGH SCHOOL GUY.
I'M SURE ONCE I TALK TO HIM...
See?
I should be let down.
He's so argumentative and rude.
He's so scary.
Undo this!
You can't be serious, asshole!!

I WANT
TO GET
TO KNOW
HIM BETTER.

SLIDE
FLINCH
ART ROOM
When I went to the committee meeting, I was told to come here.
Oh...
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
Then we've decided on doing a fashion show
FASHION SHOW
Seriously? Damn it...
Anyone against it?
.....

There's no one creating the stage. Anyone? Any of the guys?
CREATING STAGE
DESIGN YAMAMOTO
MAKING OUTFITS
MURAKAWA
KINOSHITA
SAITO
TSUYAMA
AMAGUCHI
No way. There's no way I'm doing that...
Hmm, there are too many people doing the same thing...
Then, we all vote unanimously for the fashion show! ♡
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
But I think it'd be difficult for him to make it by himself.
It's his fault for not being here.
I guess Sugiyama could do it.
I totally hear you!!!
Right?
Right?
They're so cunning!!
That's why I hate girls...

.....
You were unlucky to get stuck with this job, too.
Ooh, I win. I got a D.
I got an F for Art last semester.
Then I'll work on the stage with Sugiyama.
Oh, my name is Sugi-yama.
I can talk to him normally when there is stuff to do...
I know.
Sure.
By the way, my name is Kasukabe. Can you get the hammer?
So this is what the final result should look like.
And here are the supplies.
Are you serious?

No way.
No way...
I know, right?
Hee hee.
You have to build the stage?! Are you serious?!
I heard you didn't say yes to that other girl.
Yeah.
What?! Why didn't you?!
One of your charms is that you don't say no to anyone!!
I'm busy right now.
You know... Like preparing for the festival...
I don't think I could do this
It's scary!
I would look things up on the internet and get depressed...
Or I would just stop caring, or start fantasizing...
But you've only gone out with four girls so far.

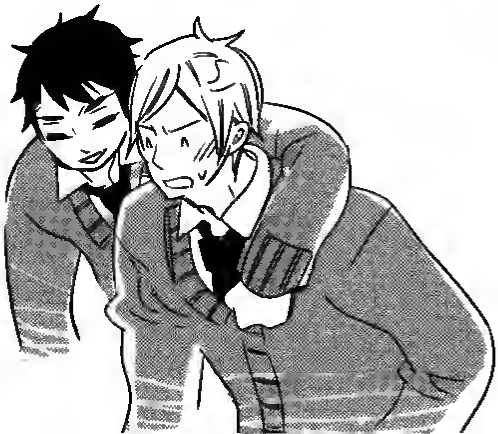
We're in our second year, and it's September. So 12+5 months at most = 17 months divided by 4 months = 4 ex-girlfriends.
I thought you were going to date nine girls throughout your high school life. With a calculation of 36 months divided by 4 months = 9 girls.
What are you talking about?
Four?
SORROW
Ah, I see...
Life cannot be calculated like that, you know...
HEH
The committee meeting. Where else?
SLIDE
SIGH
More sorrow...
Where are you going?
HEH
CREAK
Oh.
It's time to go.

Sorry.
SIGH
CLANG
What are you doing?
It's dangerous!
Sure.
TOUCH
?!
KANK
Shoot, I messed up...
Can you get the pliers?
Because I'm pretty free on weekends.
I went to the store with the teacher over the weekend.
Where did you get the supplies? I feel like there are more now.
Oh.
I'M HAPPY TO BE HERE WITH HIM, BUT IT'S BAD FOR MY HEART.
PHEW
Huh?
BADUM
How does this work?
Wow, you're...
What do you call it...

Good morning.
Morning.
GRAB
Huh?
!!!!
Sugi... yama!!
Let me hold on for a sec...
SUGIYAMA ...
?!
Uhh...?!

Hey, Kasukabe.
ART ROOM
So... What's going on with this part?
What part?
SUGIYAMA ...
This one-
!!!!
Ack!
HUG
...IS ROUGH AND RUDE.
I see.
BUT WHEN HE GETS USED TO YOU...
Oh... um....
You connect these two boards, and...

...WHO KNOWS HOW DIFFERENT HE COULD BE.



But you're the fastest on the team, right?
Not with this time.
You're pretty amazing.
Hey.
And you went to the Nationals. That's crazy.

I only went.
But it's the Nationals.
.....
But watch me next year.
CROUCH
SUGIYAMA LAUGHED SCORNFULLY.
?...
DASH

Sugiyama, get moving!!
SUGIYAMA IS ROUGH, UNFRIENDLY...
...BUT HE'S PRETTY COOL WHEN HE GETS USED TO YOU...
...AND VERY SERIOUS ABOUT RUNNING.

There are less than 10 days until the festival!! He's so selfish!
Sugiyama went home early again?!
It's fine. He works hard on his track team.
But aren't you doing all the work?!
It's OK. I'm bored, anyway.
We're getting work done, so stop complaining.
And don't get in Sugiyama's way, either.

I should head home soon...
Sugiyama ?
PANT

Hey.
Yeah...
Why are you so worn out?
My time...
...hasn't gotten any better since I went...
...to the Nationals.
I WAS THINKING...
Our school is public, and my coach is just a PE teacher.
...AS I WATCHED SUGIYAMA DRENCHED IN SWEAT...
Unlike a private school, we don't have a gym.
He can't give me expert advice.

...THAT THIS IS MY CHANCE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIM.
I'll comfort him.
Maybe I'll pat him on the head...
I could say something kind. Something he wants to hear.
...gently, and...
JUST LIKE I DID BEFORE WITH GIRLS.
THEN MAYBE...

Our school didn't turn public *yesterday*.
Don't be making excuses now.
So does everyone in private school make it to the Nationals?
.....
You got to the Nationals last year by running on these tracks with no lights every night.
Then keep running.

Damn it!
I'll run, even if you don't tell me to!
BUT...
...I'M HAVING FUN THESE DAYS.
.....
What did I say?
I COULDN'T TALK TO HIM BEFORE, BUT NOW I CAN AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK.
HE KNOWS MY NAME.
HE'S FRIENDLY WITH ME.
THAT'S WHY...
Urrgh.

I DON'T WANT THIS SITUATION TO CHANGE.
If I try to change this...
...and tell him how I feel...
...and it'll get awkward...
I THINK I'M OK IF THINGS ARE THE WAY THEY ARE NOW.
TO STAY FRIENDS...
WHAT I HAVE IS GREAT.
...IS THE BEST OPTION.

BUT...
...MAINTAINING THIS SITUATION IS LONELY, TOO.

ART ROOM
Hey, Sugiyama. Do you have a girlfriend?
KLANK
Do I look like I have one?
KLANK
No...
Then, do you...
BADUM
... have ...
BADUM
BADUM
... you like?
... someone...
BADUM
How about you?
What?
You dated Hayama in my class, right?
And also Yoneda and Tanigawa from the next class?
You're pretty popular with the girls. Wow.
KLANK
Oh... that's...!
That was a long time ago...
...and I'm not dating anyone right now at all! Wait, who told you?!
HA HA
A long time ago?
That's still amazing, you know.
!!

Lately, I've been getting a lot of girls asking about you.
Well, I guess I can see why.
I mean, you're pretty tall...
WHUMP
Whoa!
..and good-looking.

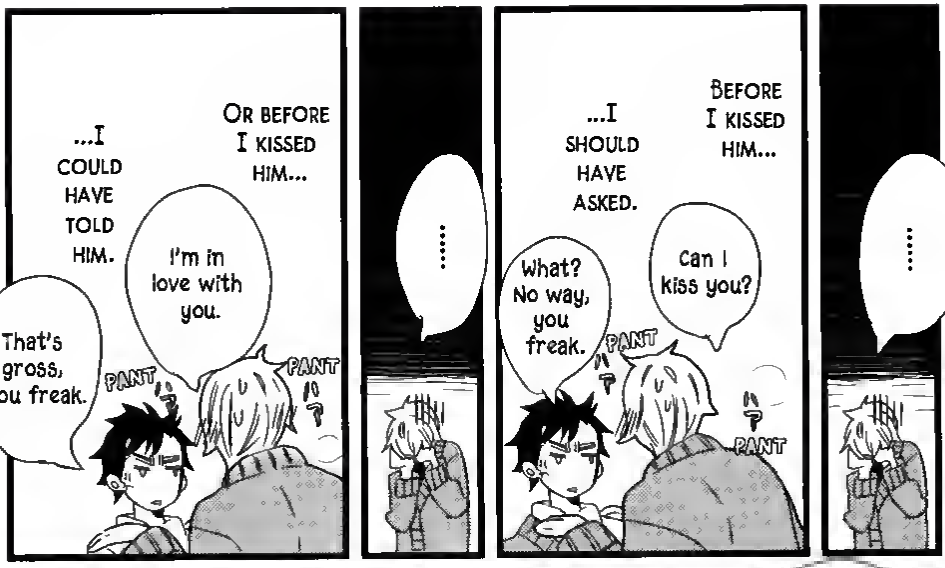
!
BLUSH!
And you're nice.
And... if I'm being a wimp, you'll knock some sense into me.
SUGIYAMA, PLEASE, DON'T GET TOO CLOSE.
Huh?
IF YOU GET CLOSE, I MIGHT...
You comforted me.
I MIGHT...

...you...
So I can see why girls would like...
I MIGHT...
I...
ガシッ
THUD

Last Chapter

I NEED TO QUIT SCHOOL.
ALL I REMEMBER IS...
THUD
...SUGIYAMA'S DISGUSTED FACE.

HE KNOWS HOW I FEEL.
Aaaghhh!
WHAT DID I DOOOOO?!
I'D BETTER WAKE UP
HE PROBABLY HATES ME NOW.
HE LOOKED ...
...DISGUSTED.
(Second look.)
WHAP
.....
There should have been another way to handle it.
Something that wouldn't have disgusted him.
A better way...
SUCH AS...


...I COULD HAVE TOLD HIM.
Or before I kissed him...
I'm in love with you.
That's gross, you freak.
PANT
PANT
...
...I SHOULD HAVE ASKED.
Before I kissed him...
Can I kiss you?
What? No way, you freak.
PANT
PANT
...

AGGGHHHH!!!

SUGIYAMA'S LOOK JUST KEEPS COMING BACK.

I CAN'T EVEN FANTASIZE NOW.

I WISH IT WAS AS EASY TO HATE SOMEONE ...
...AS IT IS TO FALL IN LOVE.
Hey.
Sugi-yama...

I wasn't sure if I could call out to you.
CREAK
WORN OUT
Nothing...
You should have told me if you were here
What are you doing?
FLINCH
Oh well. I'll ask him about it tomorrow.
STRETCH
.....
STRETCH
STRETCH
I wonder what that was about.

I think that's my only option.
I could try to laugh it off as a joke...
FLINCH
Hey, is Kasukabe here?
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
That's weird. He was here a minute ago.
Sure
Hey, Kasukabe.

I'M SCARED TO SEE HIM.

Yeah.
Do you have a design?
Yeah, as long as it's a simple sign.
Do you think you can do it?
Yeah. I'm sorry it's last minute.
I can't draw pictures, though
No, just words are fine
No, it's OK. I'll ask myself.
Do you want me to tell Sugiyama to help you?
ART ROOM
There...
Yellow

Oh, he's running again.
When the festival is over...
...I won't see Sugiyama anymore.
I'm going to go back to just watching the track...

PEEL
...FROM UP HERE AGAIN.
PEEL
10/4 SAT
10/5 SUN

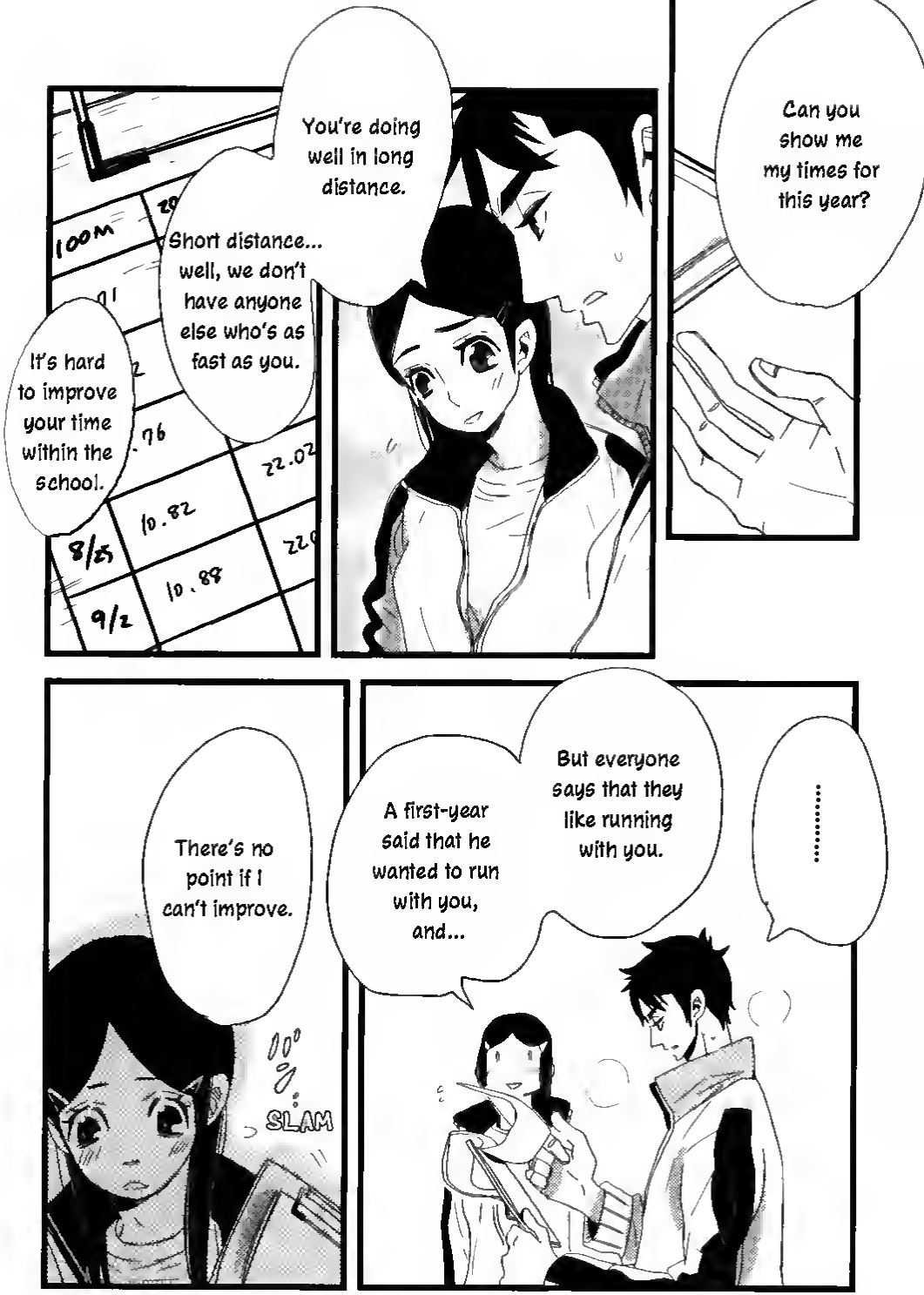
Yamamoto!
Yeah?
Hey.
GLANCE
Do you know where Kasukabe is?
I haven't seen him lately for some reason.
I don't know.
But he's still working hard in the committee.
Yeah, I know.
But I can't find him in the art room.
.....
Work is getting done

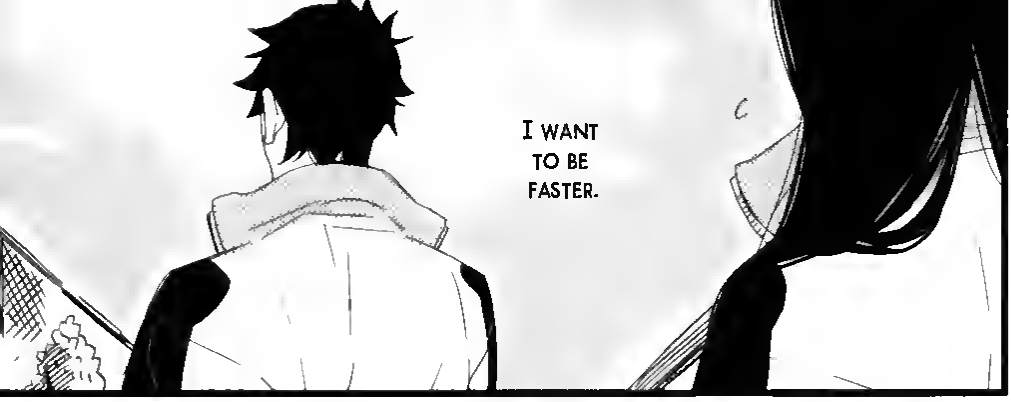
Sugiyama...
Did you...
.....
What?
...help make this sign?
?
Nope.

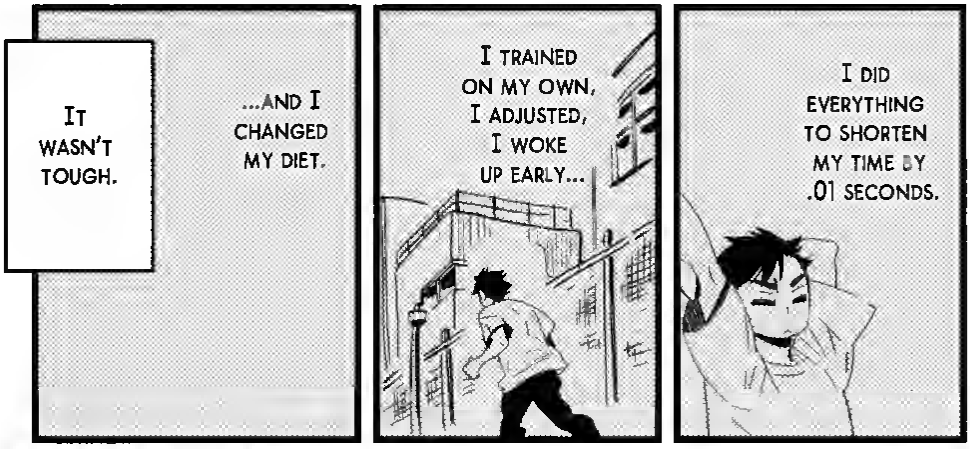
I see.
Kasukabe made this.
It was a last minute request, but he finished it in a day.
Did you know that only the two of you were in charge of building the stage?
You know that it was also your job, too.
.....
OK.
You only helped once a week.
But Kasukabe helped out every day.

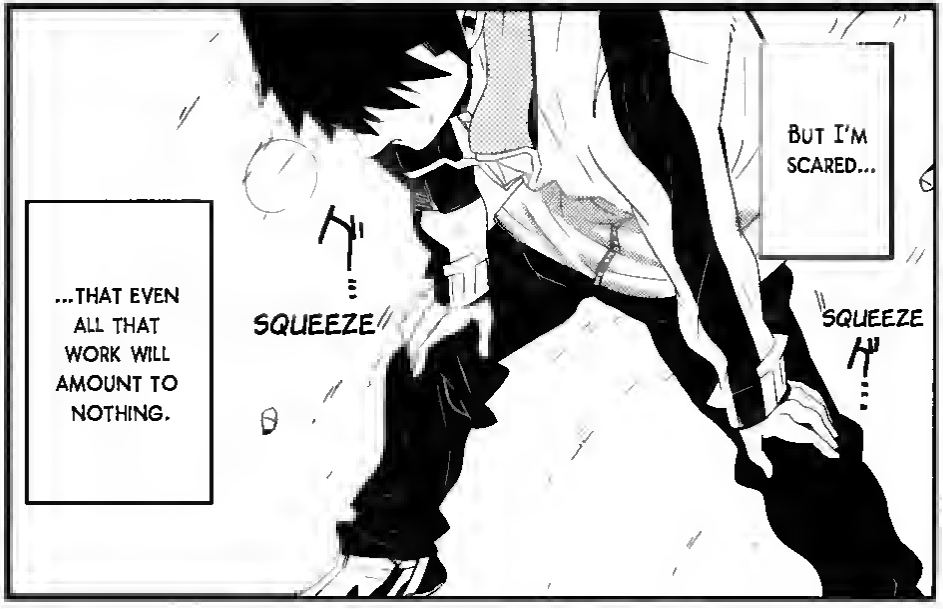
ZISH
Why are you telling me this? I don't care...
Track & Field Team
BONK

...to pick up your slack.
ZISH
ZISH
KASUKABE HELPED OUT EVERY DAY...
Last lap!!
ZISH
ZISH
ZISH
Tashiro, 12.07 seconds.
Sugiyama, 10.91 seconds.
ZISH

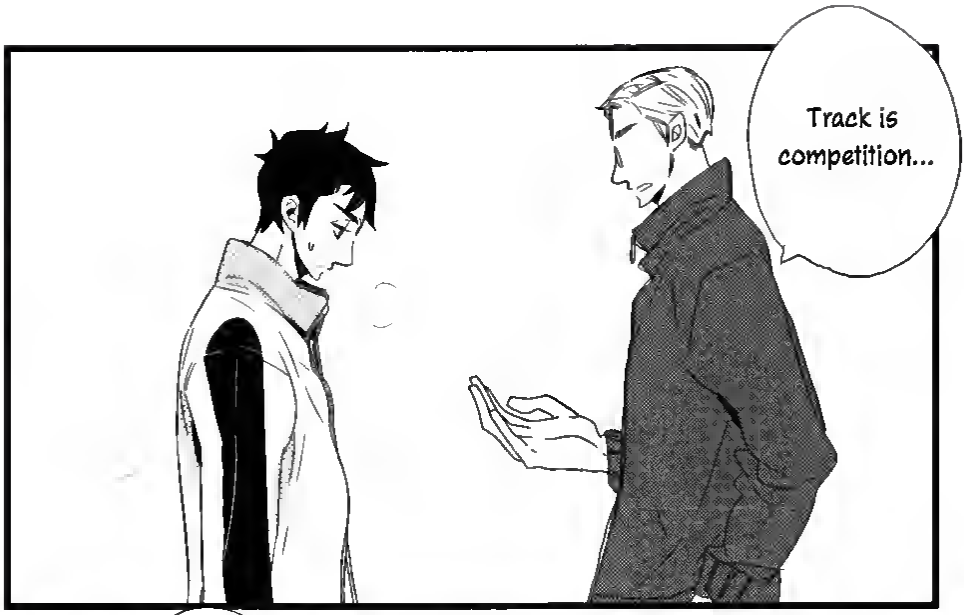

Can you show me my times for this year?
You're doing well in long distance.
Short distance... well, we don't have anyone else who's as fast as you.
It's hard to improve your time within the school.
100M
8/25
9/2
10.82
10.88
22.02
But everyone says that they like running with you.
A first-year said that he wanted to run with you, and...
.....
There's no point if I can't improve.
SLAM


I WANT TO BE FASTER.


IT WASN'T TOUGH.
...AND I CHANGED MY DIET.
I TRAINED ON MY OWN, I ADJUSTED, I WOKE UP EARLY...
I DID EVERYTHING TO SHORTEN MY TIME BY .01 SECONDS.


...THAT EVEN ALL THAT WORK WILL AMOUNT TO NOTHING.
SQUEEZE
BUT I'M SCARED...
SQUEEZE

Sugiyama...
RUSTLE
Sugiyama! What's with this time?
There's only a month until the Nationals.
At this rate, you're just gonna go and only make it to the preliminaries. Do you understand?!
Yes...
If you just want to run, then you can jog!


Track is competition...

There's no point if you can't beat the records!!

If you can't get 49.60 seconds in the 400 meter, I'm going to remove you from the relay. Remember that!
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG

I don't think you're in the wrong.
Kasukabe...
Why are you here?
Damn it...

You heard that?
I'M SO PATHETIC...
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE COMMITTEE WORK.
SORRY I WAS BEING...
...SO SELFISH.
I WANT TO SAY THESE WORDS, BUT...
Sugiyama...

You run until it's late. Every day.
On Wednesdays, you run until about 9 PM.
Even though the rest of your teammates have gone home.
Even if no one's watching, you're still running.

You work hard.
And seeing that, from my standpoint, I think you're amazing.

And I like...
...watching you run.
"I LIKE YOU."
THIS WON'T WORK.

SUGIYAMA'S CLOSET IS FULL OF TRACK.

Even if my hair is perfect...

...even if he doesn't have a girlfriend...

...and no matter how much I hold back my feelings...

...HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY SPACE FOR ME.

BUT...

...I WANT TO SAY IT.

I WANT TO SAY IT NOW.

I'm in love with you.
.....
INHALE
I KNOW IT'S DISGUSTING!!
I'M SORRY!!
Huh?
.....
TURN
You could just forget what I said!!
GRAB

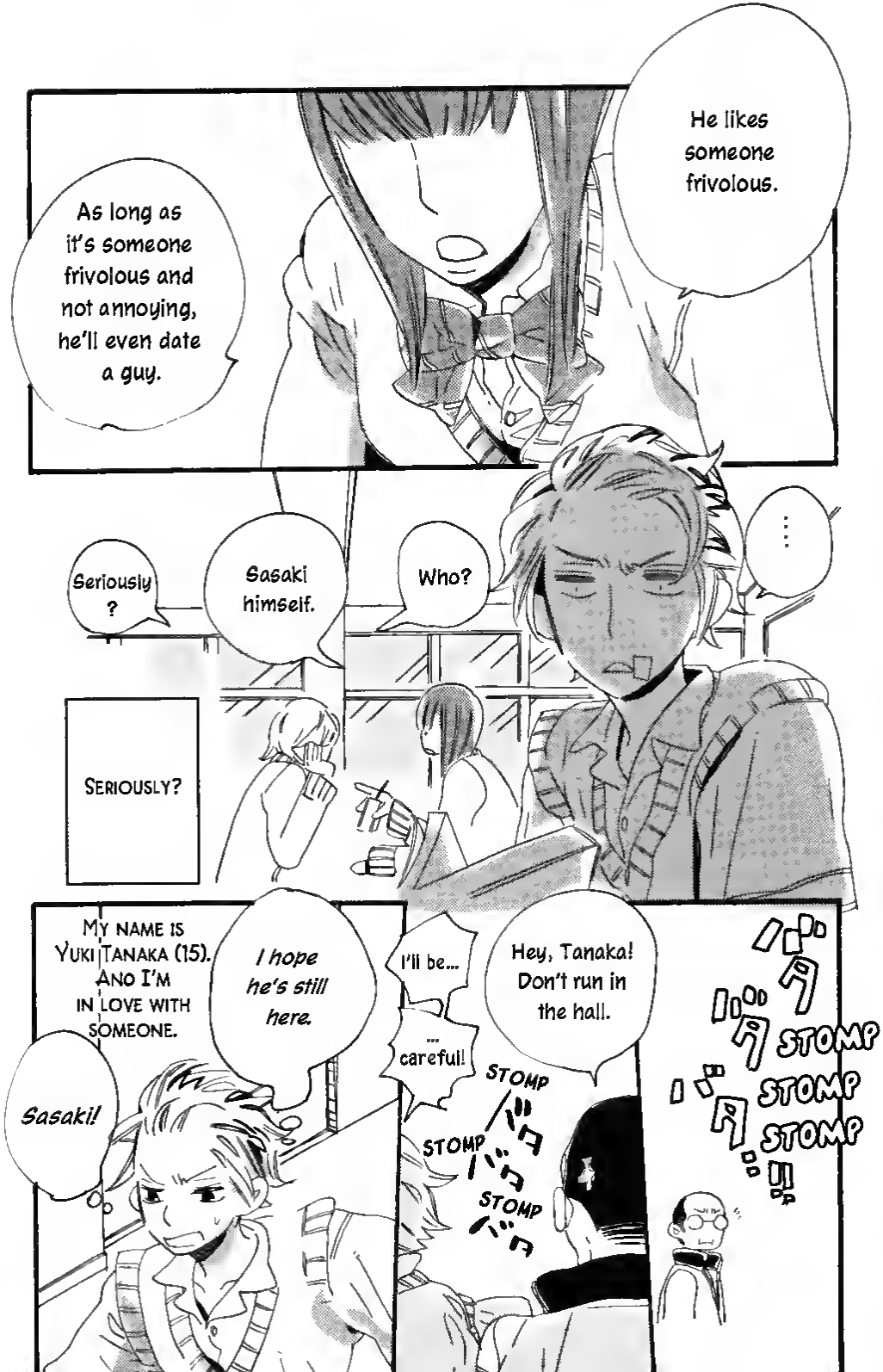
You're OK...
TUG
...if I forget about it?
TUG
Hey...

Are you sure you're OK if you don't forget it?
BUZZ
Ah, it's like a dream.
BUZZ
BUZZ

YAY
It's more like a nightmare.
CHATTER
Shut up!!!
You didn't even do much!!!
I thought we were only in charge of building the stage!!
Come on!!!
Is this real? Or a fantasy?
Hey, Sugi-yama...
DAZED
CLENCH
CLENCH
CLENCH
What?!

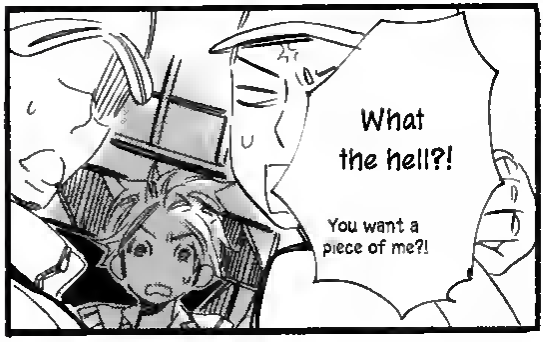
WHACK
WAKE UP, YOU IDIOT!!
.....
Shoot, did I hit him too hard?
Makeup!
.....
MY FIST HURTS!!
So it's a fantasy?
I don't think it hurts much.
Can you fix Kasukabe's makeup? Hurry
END

ABOUT A BOY


He likes someone frivolous.
As long as it's someone frivolous and not annoying, he'll even date a guy.
...
Who?
Sasaki himself.
Seriously?
SERIOUSLY?
MY NAME IS YUKI TANAKA (15). AND I'M IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE.
I hope he's still here.
Sasaki!
I'll be...
...careful!
Hey, Tanaka! Don't run in the hall.
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

His shoes are so big.
BLUSH
Oh, his shoes are still here.
PHEW
PANT
PANT
I'M A GUY, AND THE GUY I'M IN LOVE WITH IS ALSO A GUY. I'M NOT GAY, BUT I'VE FALLEN HARD FOR HIM.
3.0M
Come on, I just need $100!
HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?
WELL, THREE DAYS AGO...
I only have $5 right now.
I'll pay you back the next time I see you, so please!!
Damn it, I would fight if it's only one of them...

Then let me see your wallet-!!
WHOOSH

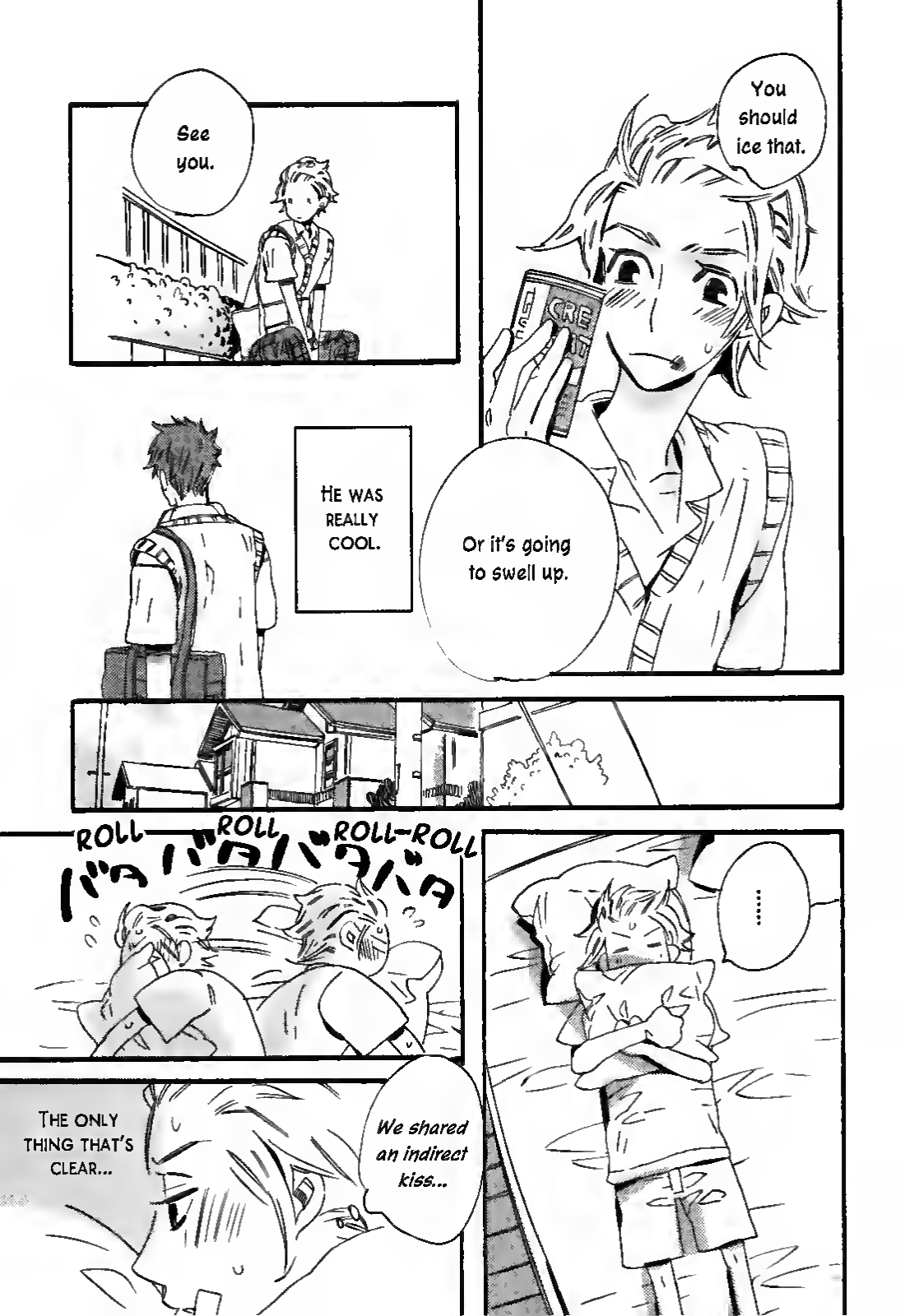

What the hell?!
You want a piece of me?!

SASAKI AND I...

Sure, of course. Let's get this over with.
...WERE JUST CLASSMATES AND WE NEVER REALLY SPOKE.

WHACK
Urgh...
PANT
PANT
HE WAS REALLY STRONG AND COOL.
Take that!
Oww!!
GAH
WHACK
Let's go!
I'm sorry, Sasaki. But thanks for helping me out. Did you get hurt?!
I'll treat you to something to thank you!!

It's OK.
It's cool.
Besides, they looked familiar.
Sorry, Sasaki.
...
CLINK
I thought if it's four of them, I thought I could take care of it.
Here...
Take the rest.
PLOP
Huh?
BADUM


See you.
You should ice that.
CRE
Or it's going to swell up.
HE WAS REALLY COOL.
ROLL ROLL ROLL-ROLL
バタバタバタバタ
.....
THE ONLY THING THAT'S CLEAR...
We shared an indirect kiss...

.....
GULP
There he is.
Sasaki!
...IS THAT I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE.

Tanaka!!
Nakata?
STING
Oh...
Oh, um... Thanks for the other day!
Sasaki! I know it's out of the blue, but...
CLENCH
I need to act frivolous!!
And not annoying!!
WHIP
...do you want to go out with me?!
SLIP
What? You're gay?
WHIP
Maybe!
Frivolous !!

Well, then...
...we could start as friends.
Maybe..
PANT
PANT
ALL...
!!
...RIGHT!!!...
So...
...now that we're going out, what do we do?
Huh?!
uh...
...um...

I NEED TO BE FRIVOLOUS AND NOT ANNOYING.
That's...
Huh?
About what?!
He spoke!
But I'm so surprised.
Huh?
Oh, that's...
You look like you're popular with girls, but you like guys?
For the time being, they go home together.
.....
He's so quiet.
...I got sick of girls.
HA HA HA
VIRGIN
...well...
Huh? I guess...
Seriously?
You're so mature
OK! See you tomorrow!!
Well, my house is toward the south exit. See you.

.....
PIT
PAT
PIT
TURN
YAWN
DAZED
MAN, HE'S SO HOT.
SASAKI... ♡

APPALLED
Eeeeek!
RECOMMENDED
What?!
You're interested in guys?
Huh?
Then you should have said so.
AT HOME.
AAAGH!
This is what guys do with each other?!
What are you doing in my room?!
They move so fast.
I SHOULD AT LEAST KISS HIM TOMORROW.
Yeah...
I'll take the lead.
And be cool about it.

So the class president told me that I have to turn in my urine by today!!
So I went to the bathroom with Suzuki...
He really doesn't talk!!
...but I already peed a lot that morning, so nothing came out.
!!
An opportunity!!
Oh!
Sa...
Sasaki, you have something on your face!!
CREAK
LICK
KONK
Ouch.

TREMBLE
WHOOSH
And so I had to stay in the bathroom.
.....
.....
Um, it's hot today, isn't it?!
HA HA HA
.....

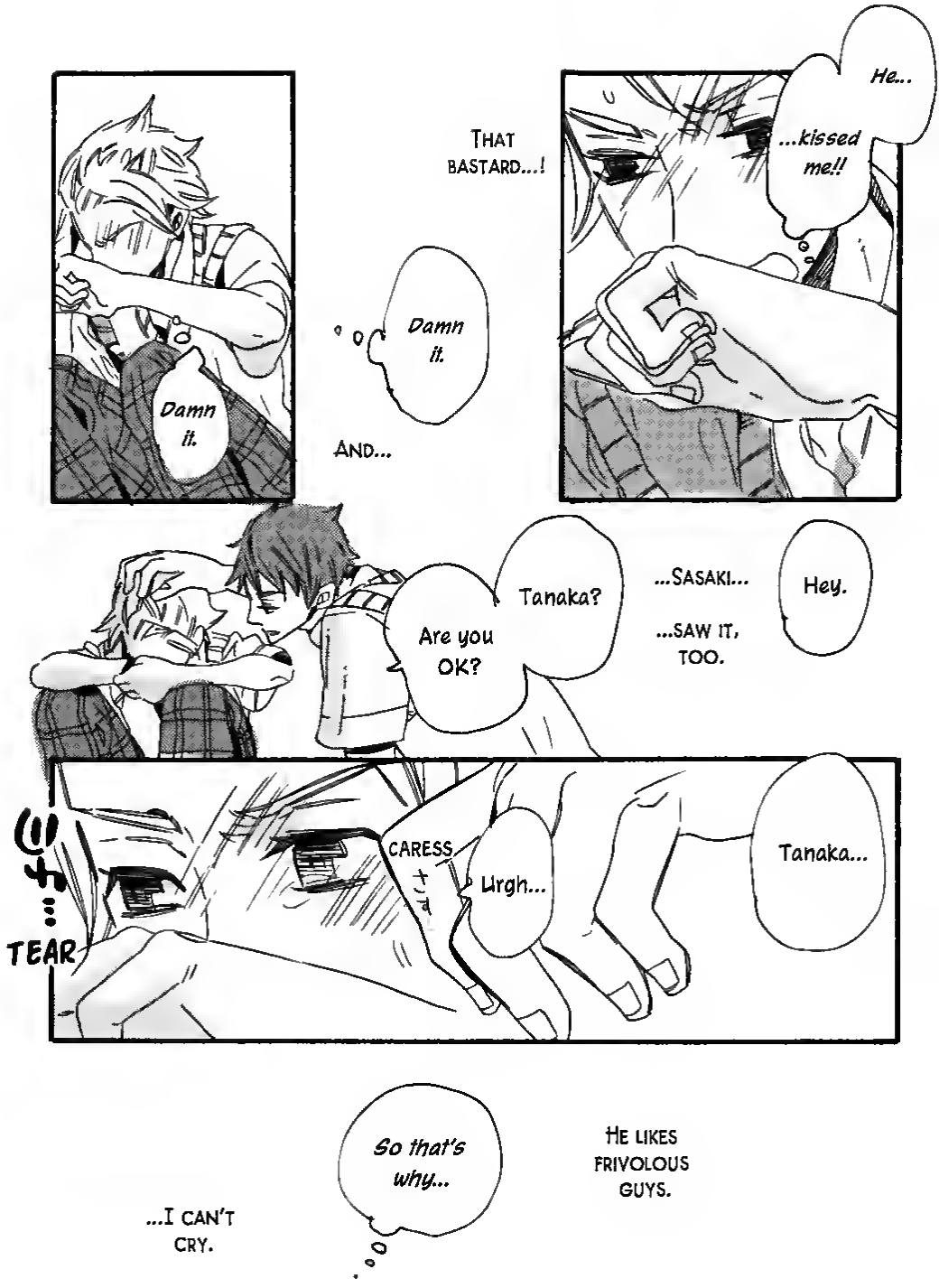
Seriously?
I heard they're gay.
I heard they've been hanging out lately.
Who's that next to him?
It's Sasaki, the first-year.
Hey, look at that.
I wonder if he's here already.
PANT
DING
DONG
Ow!!
!!
Huh?
SLIDE
THUD

Why the heck are you guys standing here?!
You're feisty, first-year.
Shoot, they're older!
You're...
...Sasaki's girlfriend, aren't you?

There's a rumor going around...
THUD
Why is he blushing?
BLUSH
Girl-friend...
Huh?
What are you saying? Stop making stuff up.
...is quite smitten with someone.
And that someone is a guy.
TUG
...that Sasaki...
So are you doing it with Sasaki?
I see...
Smitten.
He's blushing again.

TUG
You do have a cute face for being a guy.
HUH?
HUH?
You...
SHIVER
KICK
What?!

What are you doing?
Didn't we settle this when we were in junior high?
CRACK
Or was that my misunderstanding?
No, not at all.
Oh!
Not. At. All.
It's not your misunderstanding.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SLAM
SLIDE


He...
...kissed me!!
THAT BASTARD...!
Damn it.
Damn it.
AND...
...SASAKI...
...SAW IT, TOO.
Hey.
Tanaka?
Are you OK?
Tanaka...
Urgh...
CARESS
TEAR
So that's why...
HE LIKES FRIVOLOUS GUYS.
...I CAN'T CRY.

I'm fine.
I'm used to it.
Or Sasaki won't like me.
...
I see.
Really...?
Yeah, that's right.
That was nothing!
So...
TUG

HI
THUD:
Really.
Huh?
Hey, what are you doing?!
CLICK
CLICK
Um...
Ow!
Sasaki, don't...
Ahh!
FLINCH
SQUEEZE

Uh...
PULL
You're used to it, right?
Then let's do it.
Aagh!
WHOOSH
FLINCH
No...
I'M SCARED.
I'M SCARED.
I DON'T WANT TO.

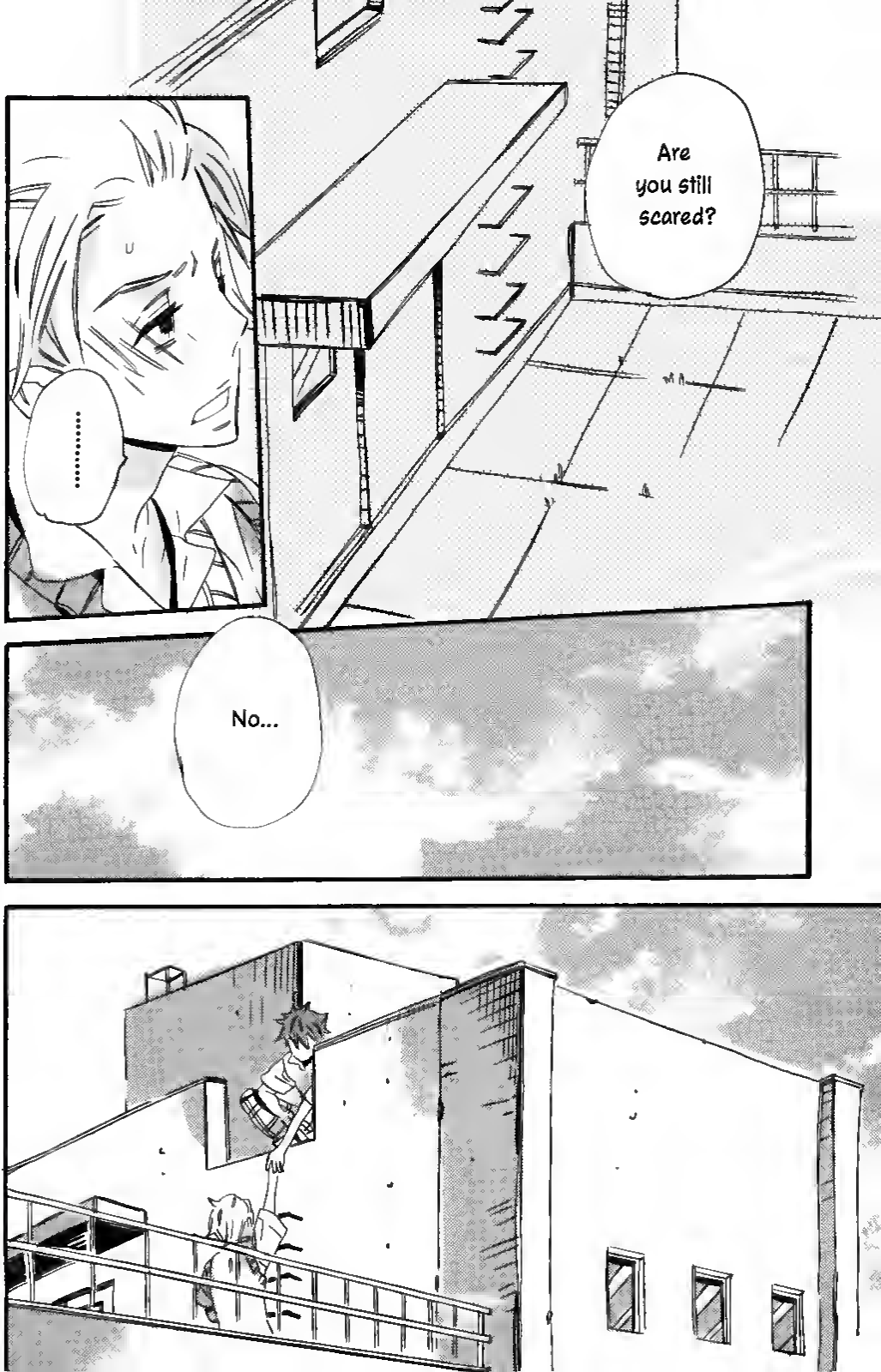
BUT...
I DON'T WANT TO.
I DON'T WANT TO.
I DON'T WANT TO DO IT.
TEAR
TREMBLE
...I DON'T WANT SASAKI TO HATE ME.
Urgh...
TREMBLE

.....
!!
THUD
FLINCH
.....
Sasaki...?
Because you're scared.
Actually, no.
How come?
TREMBLE
You're...
...not continuing?
No.
HEAVY

Because I think I'm in love...
...with you.
Whoa...
TUG
Oh...
Huh?

Hey, you better be careful because you're not good at fighting.
I'm scared for you
And you get confronted a lot.
.....
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
Hm...?
Mnngh.
Mm.
Mnngh?
Are you listening?
Tanaka?
It...
...felt so good.
I got an erection.
TURN
Hey...

RUB
Ack!
Oh...
Err...!
SQUEEZE
AAAGH!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
Idiot!!
Stop that, or it won't settle down!!
DD GAN
Urgh...
Tanaka...
BLUSH
Uhn.
Well what do you know, looks like we get along.
See?
RUB


Are you still scared?
.....
No...

Ugh...
Tanaka ?
This hurts!
Wow...
Ugh...
It's really tight. It feels good...
Tanaka.
Tanaka.
SQUEEZE
Ah, it's good.
Oh...
Wow. It's starting to feel better...
Can I move?

You like frivolous people, right?
What are you talking about?
No!!
Does it hurt?
If it was your first time, you should have said so.
Don't pretend you don't know what I'm talking about!
You like people who won't get attached, right?!
STING
STING
On my elementary school yearbook.
I was asked for a type, and I just answered whatever...
I think I wrote something.
Like that
Wait a minute...
Oh.
Your elementary school?!
Yeah.
So your butt hurts, right?

END

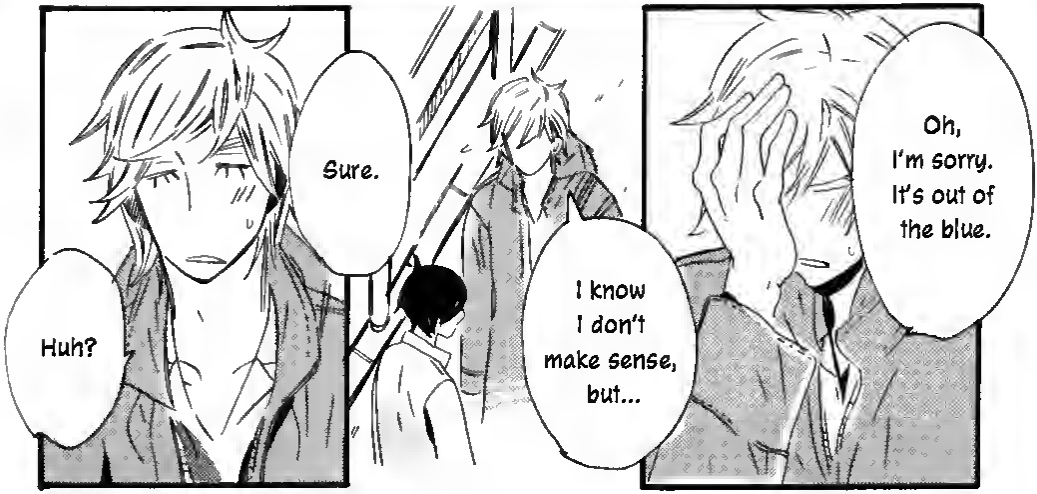
A TALE OF TWO LOVES

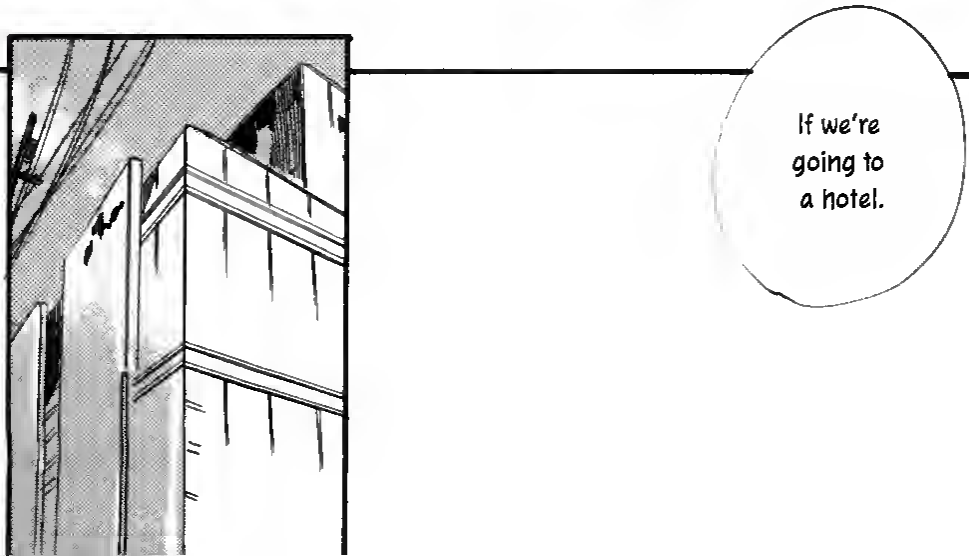
恋と恋の

Kaiwaza

VRROOOM
Um...
You're Kouda, right?
Oh... But you probably don't know me.
I'm Kato. We went to the same junior high.
And you are...?
And um...
...did you want to ditch school today?

.....


Oh, I'm sorry. It's out of the blue.
I know I don't make sense, but...
Sure.
Huh?


If we're going to a hotel.

Can we get in with two guys?
I hope they don't stop us.
Make sure you close your coat.
Huh?
Button up.
Or they'll see your school uniform.
TUG
Oh, and...
TUG
...you only have to worry about it until the entrance.
.....

I first started noticing him about a year ago.

I had to take the bus because my father built a house in an inconvenient part of town.

He's Kouda... He went to my junior high.
Should I say hi?
But he probably wouldn't know me.
He's a year older
His neck is so clean.
.....

.....
CLUNK
TAP
TAP
Handa High School.
SQUEEZE...

KOUDA...

BUT SOMETIMES HE WOULD READ DIFFICULT BOOKS IN THE TEAM ROOM.

HE'S A NORMAL GUY. ACTS STUPID LIKE ONE AT TIMES.

...WENT TO THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH, AND WAS ON THE SAME TEAM AS ME. BUT I HARDLY PARTICIPATED. HE WAS A STARTER. WE HARDLY SPOKE.

HE WAS A QUIET PERSON.

Or so I thought...

He's gay? Wow...
Gay, eh?

Oh...
He cut his hair.

He keeps touching his left side.
The side that guy is on.

.....
TUG
Sorry for being abrupt. My name is Kazuma Kato...
...and I was on the tennis team when you were...
.....
When you were...
FLINCH
Kouda...?
Are you... listening to me?

TUNK
TUNK
TUNK
MIIIIN
MIIIIN
I wonder how he's going to do?
During summer break, he won't be able to see his guy.
Oh.
Sigh..
What a drag.
Welcome.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

...IS SIMILAR TO HIS.

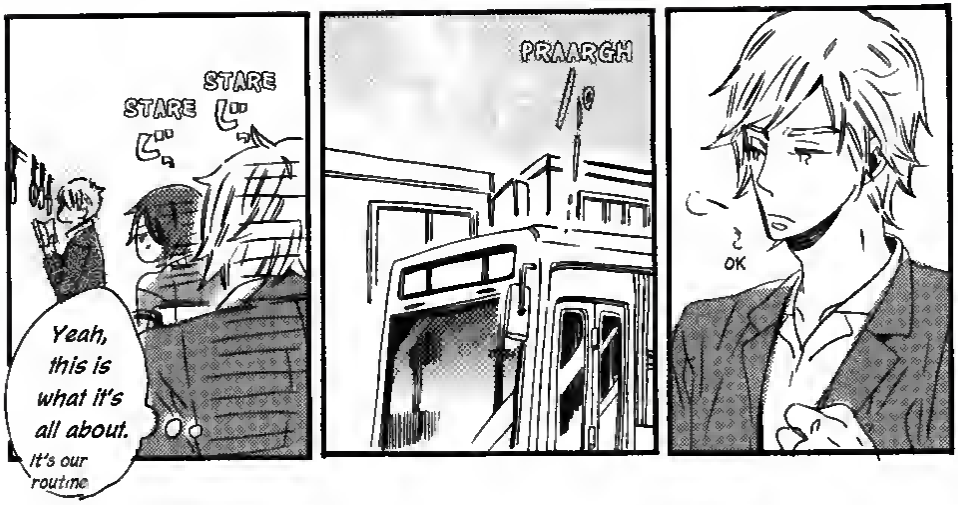
HER BLACK HAIR AND HEIGHT...

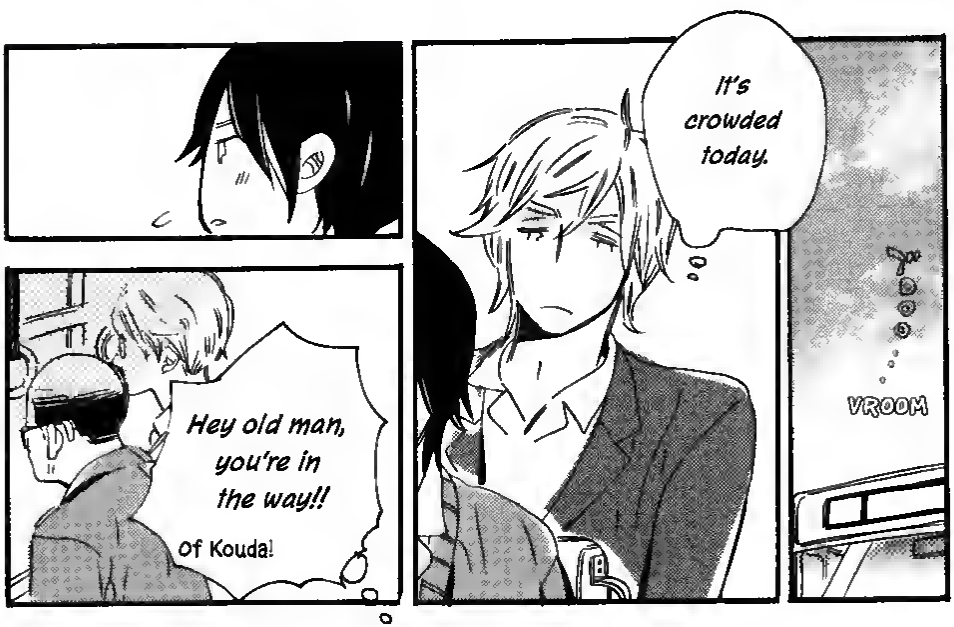
187cm...

I wonder what he's doing now.
I don't know anything about him.
Like where he lives.
VROOOOM
...he's going through a lonely summer, not being able to see that guy.
I guess that's good for me.
I'm sure...

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

ONLY THAT HE'S IN LOVE WITH THAT GUY.


STARE
STARE
Yeah, this is what it's all about.
It's our routine
PRAARGH
OK


It's crowded today.
VROOM
Hey old man, you're in the way!!
Of Kouda!

KOUDA,
GOOD LUCK.

DON'T
GIVE UP.

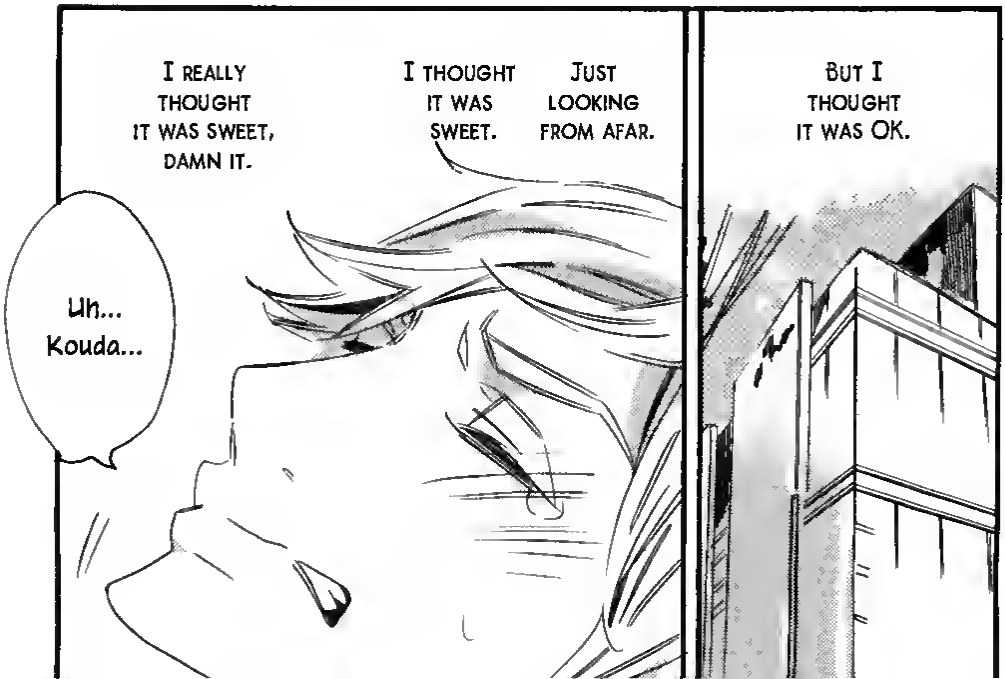
AND THAT
WAS...

...THE YEAR
KOUDA AND
I SHARED.

SO IT SUCKS, BUT YOU CAN'T COMPLAIN.

...ONLY LOOKING IS NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING.

IT SUCKS, BUT...



Seriously.
Stop.
Please.
I'm going to get an erection.
BUT NOW YOU'RE DOING THIS?
.....
You already have.

SERIOUSLY. I SHOULD DIE.
I DID, DAMN IT.
Come on. You wanted to ditch, right?
And you came here, so you had ulterior motives, right?
I'm gay.
CREAK
I KNOW.
That's why...

...I can do it with anyone.
Urgh...
Ah!
Ugh.
Ahh.
Uhh...!

Aaah...!!

We did it... It felt good for me, but...
DAZED
...I'M SURE IT WASN'T GOOD FOR HIM.
What do you call this?
ROLL
It's an embarrassment for a man to refuse...
It probably hurt a lot.

I COULDN'T REMEMBER, BUT I JUST REMEMBERED IT WAS SAD.
Kouda?
CREAK...
WOOOSH

You didn't do anything you should apologize about.
I'm sorry.
I had my heart broken...
I DID.
Today...

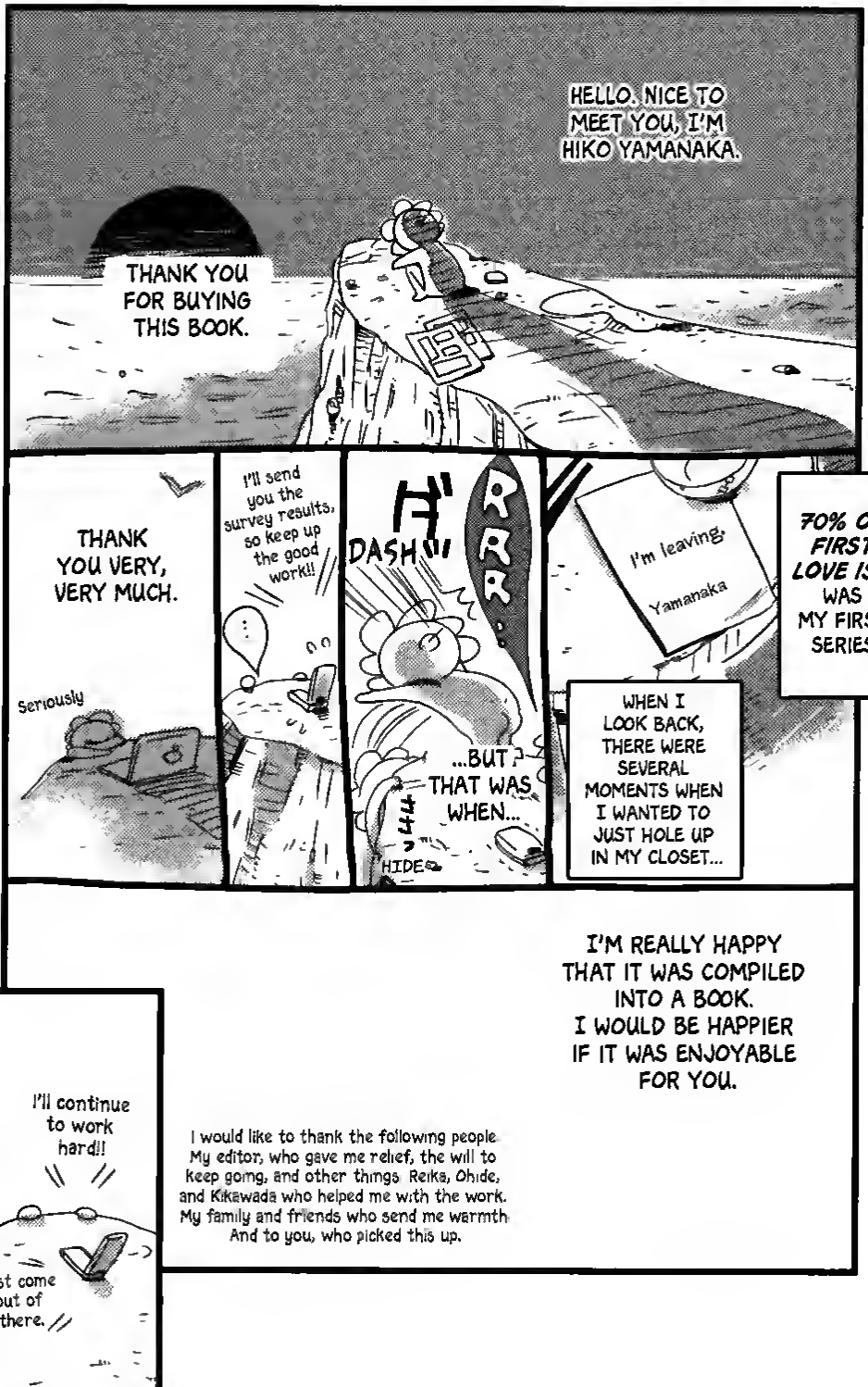
...only gave up his seat for me once.
But he...
We never spoke.
Yeah...

And we had the same taste in books.
He was my type.
YEAH.
YEAH.
And we rode the same bus in the morning.
YEAH.
That's all...

That's why it's really stupid, but...
GRAB
What are you doing?
Let go...

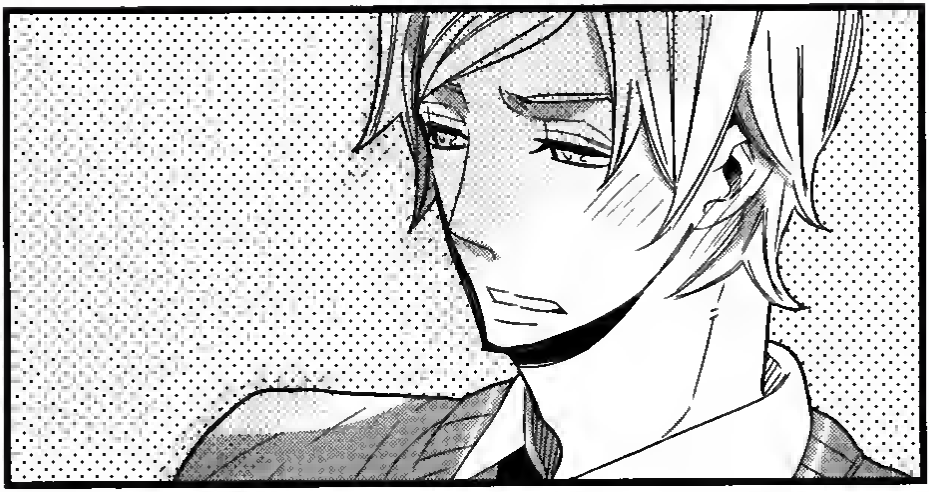
It's not stupid.
FROM A LONG TIME AGO...
...KOUDA'S LOVE...

...WAS MY LOVE.


HELLO. NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M HIKO YAMANAKA.
THANK YOU FOR BUYING THIS BOOK.
THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH.
Seriously
I'll send you the survey results, so keep up the good work!!
DASH!!
RRR.
...BUT THAT WAS WHEN...
HIDE
I'm leaving. Yamanaka
70% OF FIRST LOVE IS... WAS MY FIRST SERIES.
WHEN I LOOK BACK, THERE WERE SEVERAL MOMENTS WHEN I WANTED TO JUST HOLE UP IN MY CLOSET...
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT IT WAS COMPILED INTO A BOOK. I WOULD BE HAPPIER IF IT WAS ENJOYABLE FOR YOU.
I'll continue to work hard!!
Just come out of there.

I would like to thank the following people
My editor, who gave me relief, the will to keep going, and other things Reika, Ohide, and Kikawada who helped me with the work.
My family and friends who send me warmth
And to you, who picked this up.

NOOO.
NOOOOO.
RUSTLE
NOOOOOOO.



SAY YOU
LOVE ME.

First Love.
Ongoing

IT'S BEEN THREE MONTHS...
...SINCE WE STARTED GOING OUT.
First Love, Ongoing
I'VE BEEN FANTASIZING ABOUT SUGIYAMA EVERY DAY.
It wasn't supposed to be like this.
It's odd...

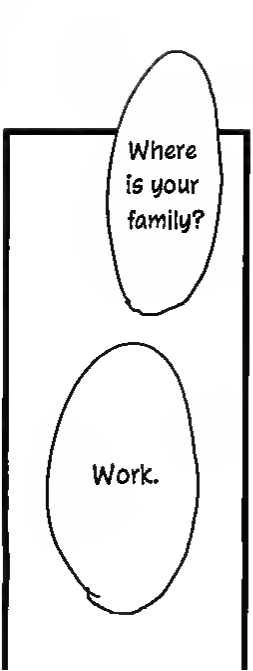
What do you have for 5th period?
WHY, YOU ASK?
I have Art.
I have Math.
WHUMP
I don't want to go.
I think my mind...
...stopped from equations.
Besides, the x and the y...
SMACK

WAKE UP
.....
WIPE
Do I...
...always have to be on guard with you?
It's fine, but...
Sorry.
Which is it?!
But he didn't tell me to stop.
He wiped his mouth!
...SO WHEN HE COMES NEAR, I INSTANTLY GO FOR IT.
SUGIYAMA HASN'T KISSED ME...

I WANT TO ASK HIM DIRECTLY...
"SUGIYAMA, DO YOU LOVE ME?"
Hey, did you watch *Aliens 3*?
Was it good?
Sir?
I did, sir.
I have the DVD at home...
Really?
Did you want to come and watch it?
Like on Saturday...?
JUMPING ON OPPORTUNITY

I FINALLY GOT THE CHANCE, AFTER THREE MONTHS!
WHIRR

Sleep over. It's late, anyway.
OK.
AND THEN...
I think I'm drunk...
...MAYBE HAVE A DRINK OR TWO.
WE CAN WATCH THE MOVIE...
WHIRR!


Where is your family?
Work.

IT'S PERFECT!!
My room is clean, too.

Oh, but...
Let's watch it in my room.
So she doesn't bother us when she gets home.
OK.
And it's smaller.
My room...
I CAN FEEL SUGIYAMA'S BODY TEMPERATURE.
He's sitting so close to me.
SIGH
ROLL
Oh.
Sorry.

Found it.
My chocolate...
GRAB
There it is.
CREAK
Oh.
Where'd it go?
Wait-
ROLL
Hey!
Whoa!
Guess I should go for it.
Before he starts thinking.
Sugi-yama...
Wah!
FLINCH
TUG
Wait...!

Yeah?
HE'S SO CUTE.
Come...
PANT
PANT
Let's get on the bed...
...up here.
TUG
SO CUTE...
We can watch it later.
VLIP
Ahh...
SQUEEZE
Ka...
...sukabe...
FLINCH
FLINCH
Hey...
!

TUG
PANT
PANT
BLUSH
FLINCH
STARE
.....
PLIP
PLIP
CREAK

SQUEEZE
Sugiyama.
Sugiyama, you're so cute.
Sugiyama...
Uhn.
Sugiyama...
Let's kiss.
Ah.
I'm so aroused.
Does Sugiyama feel the same way?
GLARE
Sugi...
Not that much. Not really.
COULD IT BE THAT SUGIYAMA DOESN'T LIKE ME?!
NOT AS MUCH AS ME?! ONLY AS FRIENDS?!
Was I being too greedy?
SHRINK
SHRINK
SHRINK
Huh? He's mad...?

Huh?
Well, you went out with Hayama, Yoneda, and Tanigawa before me...
So I guess you're used to this.
UHH...
Um, did you want me to stop?
You're so used to this.
I'm sorry.

DAZED
OH?
Is this a reaction I should be happy about?
...now.
.....
POUT

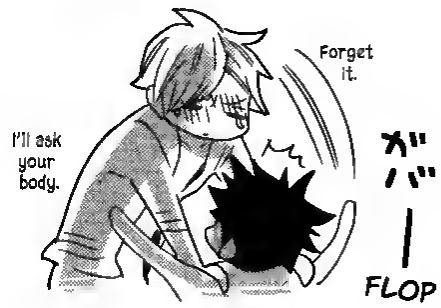
Huh? What did you say? I couldn't hear.
.....
Can you repeat it?
Whoa!
TUG

MMGH
He...
...initiated...
...the kiss for the first...
...time...
わぁ、ああ
WOOOOAHHH
I said, but you're mine now.
I won't question your past...
...but if you cheat on me, I'm going to beat you up.
男気 MANLY SPIRIT
.....

...do you like me?
Sugiyama...
THUNK
ザク
What?
Of course not.
ちゃっ
SMACK
……
!!

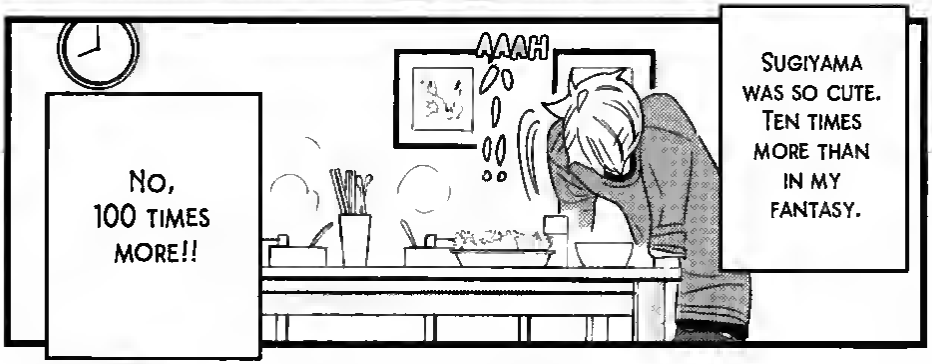
SUGIYAMA.

SUGIYAMA.

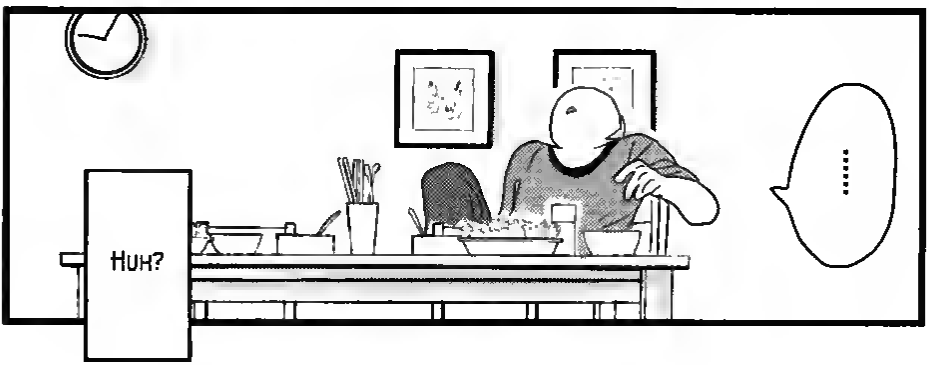


I'm going to go run.
THUMP
He's gone...
EMPTY
EMPTY
.....
.....
Hm, what should I make?
I'm laughing for no reason.
HEE HEE HEE

SIGH
KLUNK
コト。
できた
DONE


AAAH
SUGIYAMA WAS SO CUTE. TEN TIMES MORE THAN IN MY FANTASY.
NO, 100 TIMES MORE!!

Sugiyama
He's late
It's going to get cold
♡


.....
HUH?

COULD HE HAVE GONE HOME?
No way!
GONE ないの
See, his stuff is here.
And yesterday he said that he likes me.
No, but he left his stuff here...
And he said he likes me...
CLICK
SUGIYAMA?!
MAYBE IT WAS MY IMAGINATION?
BUT... I WASN'T REALLY AWAKE. I THOUGHT I HEARD HIM.
DID HE?!
NO. HE SAID HE'S GOING TO GO RUN.

CLICK
カメラ
Sugiyama!!
You idiot!!
STUFF = TOWEL + WALLET
What?
Oh, nothing.
Welcome back
Wow!
But I bought food from the convenience store.
Seriously? For me too?
Yeah.

Then we could stay together until noon.
Sure.
Then let's have this for lunch.
I'm so hungry

It did, but I ran anyway.
Didn't your butt hurt?

END

70% of First Love Is(Hatsukoi no 70% ha)

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